BLACKPOOL CORPORATION.

Roy Gault

In the August 2006 Bulletin (N.I. page 305), **Michael Millar** reported a New Die and suspected identity for "B.C" (B1130.04a), based on a Blackpool postmark. I am usually reluctant to accept such identities as it automatically cuts out any Blackpool based company with the initials "BC".

My request for more details produced just one response, which came from **Stephen Steere**. Stephen's response prompted me to look in detail at the material to hand, resulting in the following sequence:

1. "BC"	B1110.07	1895-1905	Id. confirmed
2. "B.C"	B1130.04a	1905-1910	Id. suspected
3. "BC"	B1110.14	1915-1924	Id. confirmed
4. "B.C."	B1150.03	1930-1935	Id. confirmed
5. "CB/B"	C0520.05bM	1935-1941	Id. confirmed
6. "BC"	B1110.03AM	1941-1957	Id. confirmed
7. "BC"	B1110.03M	1957-1964	Id. confirmed

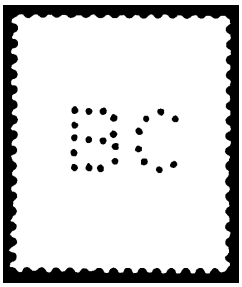
Note, there were no "BC" Sloper Wartime Provisionals.

Missing from the list is "BC" (B1110.05M), which, as Stephen points out, is only known with Burnley postmarks. Stephen has also confirmed that Blackpool became a Corporation on 21st January 1876, and a County Borough in 1904.

The earliest die we know of used by Blackpool Corporation is "BC" (B1110.07), in use 1895-1936. The Perfin Society Councils Catalogue from 1964 states the 'supplier has always been J Sloper & Co'. As this die is known used by three different users, it could so easily be a Sloper die. However, I believe Blackpool only used this die until c1905. Perhaps to celebrate their county status and enlarged responsibilities in 1904, they decided to mark the occasion by using a different die, namely "B.C" (B1130.04a).

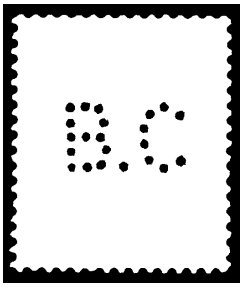
Please report details of your holdings of the following dies to help confirm (or otherwise) the sequence suggested earlier on in the piece. Dies marked in the table with an asterix (*) ***must also*** have a confirming Blackpool postmark. Also, please beware of partial postmarks for Liverpool on "BC" (B1110.07), such as …pool!

1895-1905



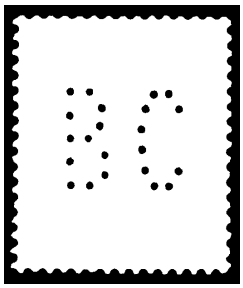
B1110.07

1905-1910



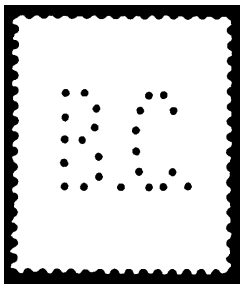
B1130.04a

1915-1924



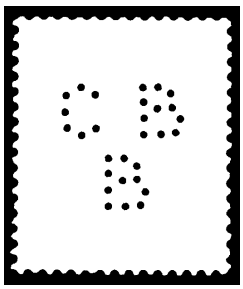
B1110.14

1930-1935



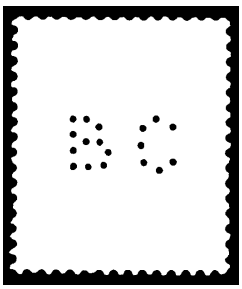
B1150.03

1935-1941



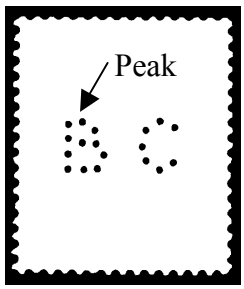
C0520.05bM

1941-1957



B1110.03AM

1957-1964



B1110.03M

The dates for B1110.03AM/03M may turn out to be not so clear cut!

Letters	Die		Stamp details and dates
BC	B1110.07	*	E 3d - 12 Nov 1897 F ½d (blue-green) - 2 Jan 1903 F 1d - 17 Nov 1904
B.C	B1130.04a		F 1d, 3d
BC	B1110.14		I(RC) ½d, 1½d, 2d
B.C.	B1150.03		I(BC) ½d, 1½d, 2d, 3d M ½d-1½d, 3d
CB/B	C0520.05bM	*	Q 1½d - 5 Aug 1938
BC	B1110.03AM	*	Q 6d U(SEC) ½d, 1½d - 14 Nov 1956
BC	B1110.03M	*	U(MC) ½d - 15 Jan 1962 U(MC) 2d (light-brown) - (Blac)kpool.